

**REMARKS**

Claims 7-18 are pending. Reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants have cancelled claims 1-6 and amended claim 7 to place it into independent form and include all of the elements of base claims 1 and 3. Entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested because entry places the present application in condition for allowance. No new matters are believed to be added by these Amendments. Based on the above Amendments, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the outstanding objections and rejections and they be withdrawn.

**CONCLUSION**

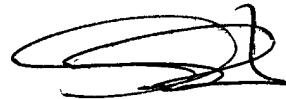
All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, all pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to **IBM**

**Deposit Account No. 09-0458 (Fishkill).**

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew M. Calderon  
Reg. No. 38,093

Date: December 2, 2004

**McGuireWoods LLP**  
1750 Tysons Boulevard  
Suite 1800  
McLean, VA 22102-4215  
Tel: 703-712-5426  
Fax: 703-712-5285  
AMC:JDL/jeh

\\COM\458373.1